



NORTH DAKOTA STATE AND LOCAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER

CI/KR Ticker

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NORTH DAKOTA AND REGIONAL

North Dakota Tribe Buys Idle Oil Pipeline from Enbridge

A Native American tribe in North Dakota bought an idle pipeline from the energy company Enbridge to help deliver oil from wells on its reservation to the broader market. The Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation announced the deal Friday but didn't disclose how much it paid. The tribe said it expects the pipeline, which will connect its oil facilities on its Fort Berthold Reservation to Enbridge's large pipeline network, will be up and running within a year. "This is a major step in enhancing our ability to get our trust assets of oil and gas out to market," tribal chair Mark Fox said to the Bismarck Tribune. The 31-mile pipeline is the closest one to the tribe's Thunder Butte Petroleum subsidiary's transloading and oil storage facility. It can transport 15,000 barrels a day. Mike Koby, vice president of U.S. liquids pipelines operations for Calgary, Alberta-based Enbridge, said the MHA Nation will be the first tribal shipper on an Enbridge pipeline. Owning the pipeline will benefit the tribe financially, he said.

Source: <https://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/north-dakota-tribe-buys-idle-oil-pipeline-enbridge-99986561>

ND Asks Presidential Disaster Declaration for Spring Flooding Damage

Gov. Doug Burgum requested a presidential major disaster declaration for spring flooding estimated to have caused more than \$5 million in damage to North Dakota roads and other public infrastructure. The request follows an executive order Burgum issued April 10 declaring a statewide flood emergency. In a letter directed to President Joe Biden through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Burgum requested a major disaster be declared for the period of April 10 to May 6 for 21 counties: Barnes, Burke, Dickey, Dunn, Golden Valley, Grand Forks, Hettinger, LaMoure, McHenry, Mercer, Morton, Mountrail, Nelson, Pembina, Ransom, Richland, Sargent, Steele, Towner, Walsh and Wells. Those 21 counties reported about \$4.1 million in flood-related damage, with FEMA validating nearly \$2.5 million in damage so far. Total damage estimates exceed \$5 million, but several counties didn't meet the per-capita damage threshold to be included in the disaster request.

Source: <https://knoxradio.com/nd-asks-presidential-disaster-declaration-for-spring-flooding-damage/>

Department of Energy to Invest \$38 Million for Carbon Capture in North Dakota

The U.S. Department of Energy is awarding \$38 million to support carbon capture, utilization and storage at Rainbow Energy's Coal Creek Station. Sen. John Hoeven, R-ND, sits on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee and assisted in securing the funds. The money will go to the University of North Dakota's Energy & Environmental Research Center (EERC) as part of the Department of Energy's CarbonSAFE program. "North Dakota is leading the way in CCUS (carbon capture, utilization and storage)," Hoeven said. "EERC and Coal Creek Station is the latest in our efforts to keep moving the development and commercially viable implementation of this critical energy technology forward." Hoeven says the investment will help protect jobs provided by Coal Creek and Falkirk Mine. Rainbow Energy Center's website says the company is relying on carbon capture technology to ensure the future success of Coal Creek Station. It says CCUS is a critical component to help the state of North Dakota reach its goal of being carbon neutral by 2030.

Source: <https://www.kfyrvtv.com/department-energy-invest-38-million-carbon-capture-north-dakota/>

U.S. Awards ND \$7.5M to Strengthen, Modernize Electric Infrastructure

North Dakota has joined Louisiana, New Mexico and South Carolina — and two southwest U-S tribal nations — in receiving the first Grid Resilience State and Tribal Formula Grants from the U.S. Department of Energy. North Dakota was awarded \$7.5 million, which will be administered by the State Industrial Commission through its Transmission Authority. In a statement, the three members of the Commission — Gov. Doug Burgum, Attorney General Drew Wrigley and Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring — said every citizen of North Dakota will benefit. They said the fact that North Dakota was among the first four states to receive an award is a testament to the state's leadership on energy and grid resilience. The Grant program aims to ensure the reliability of power sector infrastructure so that communities have access to affordable, reliable, clean electricity.

Source: <https://knoxradio.com/us-awards-nd-7-5m-to-strengthen-modernize-electric-infrastructure/>

NATIONAL

Atlanta Lawmakers Approve Funds for Police Training Center Despite Fierce Opposition

A plan to build a massive public safety training center in Atlanta cleared its latest hurdle early Tuesday when lawmakers voted to help fund a facility dubbed "Cop City" by opponents. Despite hearing more than 14 hours of testimony, mostly from opponents of the project, the Atlanta City Council agreed to allocate \$30 million toward development of the \$90-million, 85-acre facility where police, firefighters and emergency responders would train. The 11-4 vote around 5:30 a.m. local time prompted outrage and jeers within the chamber, where audience members chanted, "'Cop City' will not be built." The vote comes after years of fierce opposition from protesters who worry the proposed campus will harm the environment and be used by police to "practice urban warfare." The Atlanta City Council first approved the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center in 2021, following anti-police violence protests. City officials said the new center would be integral to the reforms residents had been demanding, but protesters remain staunchly opposed.

Source: <https://www.nbcnews.com/atlanta-lawmakers-approve-funds-controversial-cop-city>

Infrastructure Bill Proposes \$100M in Grants for U.S. Made Drones

Senators Jacky Rosen (D-Nev.), John Boozman (R-Ark.), and Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) have proposed new legislation to increase the use of US-made drones in infrastructure projects. The bipartisan bill would authorize \$100 million in competitive grants to help local governments leverage American drones in critical infrastructure inspections, maintenance, and construction activities. Blumenthal stresses that drone technology can be a valuable tool to help the country modernize its roads and bridges. "These grants are an important investment to ensure state and local inspection officials have the resources they need to keep our infrastructure and communities safe," says Blumenthal. Michael Robbins, chief advocacy officer at the Association for Uncrewed Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI), points out that the role of drones as indispensable tools for critical operations, including infrastructure inspections, will only grow as the technology advances further.

Source: <https://dronedj.com/2023/06/09/us-infrastructure-drone-grant-2023/>

DHS Warns U.S. Extremists Pose Growing Threat to Cops, Reporters, Pipelines

Domestic violent extremists from different parts of the political spectrum pose a growing threat to law enforcement, journalists and sites linked to the nation's critical infrastructure, according to U.S. intelligence obtained by Newsweek. The document, titled "Terrorist Media Trends: March 2023" and attributed to the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Office of Intelligence and Analysis highlighted risks from domestic extremists from both the left and right. Among its examples were protesters who attacked police in Atlanta last month as well as concerns over narratives justifying violence against the LGBTQ+ community after the deadly March 27 shooting at a Christian school in Nashville by a shooter who identified as transgender. "DVE calls for attacks against construction firms, construction equipment, financial institutions, and infrastructure continue to expand across the United States," the document said, "as DVEs identify new targets associated with projects perceived as harmful to the environment or in opposition to their ideology."

Source: <https://www.newsweek.com/dhs-warns-us-extremists-pose-growing-threat-cops-reporters-pipelines>

Apple Partners with Broadcom to Build 5G Components in the United States

Apple announced a multibillion-dollar deal with Broadcom to build some wireless components in the United States. Under the terms of the agreement, Broadcom will design and build 5G components, including FBAR filters, in its America-based facilities. In a statement, Apple CEO Tim Cook stated "Apple is thrilled to make commitments that harness the ingenuity, creativity, and innovative spirit of American manufacturing. All of Apple's products depend on technology engineered and built here in the United States, and we'll continue to deepen our investments in the U.S. economy because we have an unshakable belief in America's future." This deal is part of the previous commitment to American manufacturing Apple announced in 2021 in which it pledged \$430 billion to the U.S. economy over a five-year period.

Source: <https://techcrunch.com/apple-partners-with-broadcom-to-build-5g-components-in-the-us>

INTERNATIONAL

Iran Unveils Alleged Hypersonic Missile Able to Beat U.S. Air Defenses

Iran claimed on Tuesday that it had created a hypersonic missile capable of traveling at 15 times the speed of sound, adding a new weapon to its arsenal as tensions remain high with the United States over Tehran's nuclear program. The new missile — called Fattah, or "Conqueror" in Farsi — was unveiled even as Iran said it would reopen its diplomatic posts on Tuesday in Saudi Arabia after reaching a détente with Riyadh following years of conflict. The tightly choreographed segment on Iranian state television apparently sought to show that Tehran's hardline government can still deploy arms against its enemies across much of the Middle East. "Today we feel that the deterrent power has been formed," Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi said at the event. "This power is an anchor of lasting security and peace for the regional countries."

Source: <https://apnews.com/article/iran-hypersonic-missile-us-tensions>

North Korea Spent the Pandemic Building a Huge Border Wall

North Korea spent much of the pandemic reinforcing and building a huge border wall to close off its frontiers with China and Russia — and prevent defectors from leaving the hermit kingdom. Beginning in 2020, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's regime constructed hundreds of miles of border fences, according to satellite imagery analyzed this week by Reuters, the Monterey-based Middlebury Institute of International Studies and the accounts of activists and defectors who have recently escaped from the repressive country. "The traditional North Korea-China route is now effectively over, unless there is a major change in the situation," a South Korean pastor who has helped North Koreans defect and did not want to be identified told the news agency. He said China was the most popular escape route for those fleeing the North Korean regime. Only 67 defectors made it to South Korea last year, compared with more than 1,000 who escaped in 2019, according to reports.

Source: <https://nypost.com/2023/05/27/north-korea-reinforces-border-with-china-russia/>

Ukrainian Hackers Take Out Russian Banking Infrastructure

Pro-Ukrainian hacktivists have disrupted Russian banking services after targeting a key telecoms supplier. A group calling itself "Cyber Anarchy Squad" announced the news on Twitter over the weekend. "On June 8, the Ukrainian anarchist cyber army blew up InfoTel, which supplied its communications services to hundreds of other companies, a quarter of which were Russian banks," it said. "As a result of the attack - their clients fell into severe depression. And what's next? Let's wait..." According to Ukrainian reports, the incident meant Russian banks and credit unions were not able to access the banking system or make payments. The hacktivist operation appears to have been timed to coincide with the long-awaited launch of the Ukrainian counter-offensive. This isn't the first time the Russian banking system has been targeted by pro-Ukraine hacktivists. In December 2022, the country's second-largest bank revealed it was hit by a DDoS attack described as its largest ever.

Source: <https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/ukrainian-hackers-russian-banking/>

NATO Forces Hold Largest-Ever Air Exercise in Germany

Allied air forces began the largest deployment exercise in NATO's history on Monday (12 June 2023). Twenty-five nations are taking part in the two-week long "Air Defender" exercise, with around 10,000 personnel and 250 aircraft. "Air Defender sends a clear message that NATO is ready to defend every inch of Allied territory", said NATO spokesperson Oana Lungescu, adding, "Air Defender is necessary because we live in a more dangerous world. As we face the biggest security crisis in a generation, we stand united to keep our countries and our people safe." The exercise, she added, "is a strong display of Germany's commitment, and capabilities and we thank Germany for hosting this record exercise. With 250 aircraft, including around 100 from the United States, Air Defender also demonstrates the strong bond between Europe and North America, working together in NATO." Exercise "Air Defender" has been planned for several years. Hosted and led by Germany, it will help ensure NATO air forces are trained and ready to respond together.

Source: <https://www.miragenews.com/nato-forces-hold-largest-ever-air-exercise-in-1025003/>

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